

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2001

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NASA - JPL
SSIC No. 9661

**Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announcement
Proposed Plan for Cleanup of Soil
at the National Aeronautic Space Administration
Jet Propulsion Laboratory**

For those who were unable to attend the public meetings held on May 12 and 14, 2001, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will hold an additional public meeting to discuss the proposed cleanup of soils at its Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California. The public meeting will be held at the following location and date:

Eliot Middle School Auditorium
2184 North Lake Avenue
Altadena, CA 91001

June 20, 2001

Summary presentation: 7:00 p.m.
Information forum: 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Formal comment session: 7:30 p.m.

During the "information forum," the public will have the opportunity to speak with NASA and federal and local regulatory agency representatives on a one-on-one basis about the proposed cleanup actions. Following the summary presentations, attendees can formally address questions to these representatives; these questions (and agency responses) will be included in a transcript and become part of the final decision made for the proposed action.

JPL is a federal facility owned by NASA and is located between the city of LaCanada-Flintridge and the unincorporated city of Altadena, near Pasadena, California. JPL covers about 176 acres of land and includes more than 150 buildings and other structures. The JPL site was added to the National Priorities List (NPL) and became a "Superfund" site in 1992 after an initial inspection revealed the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other chemicals in the subsurface soil and groundwater. The purpose of this notice is to invite the public to provide comments and ask questions on the Proposed Plan for cleanup of subsurface or "vadose zone" soils at the site. The Proposed Plan was previously mailed to the public during the second week of May 2001. If you did not receive a copy of the Proposed Plan or would like an additional copy, please contact Mr. Peter Robles, Jr. at the number provided in this notice.

NASA is proposing soil vapor extraction (SVE) as the preferred remedy for recovering VOCs from the soils. SVE systems are designed to remove chemicals that have a tendency to evaporate or "volatilize" easily by applying a vacuum through a system of underground wells. The VOCs are then pulled from the subsurface in vapor form where they are treated and clean air is vented from the system. SVE was shown to be effective based on a pilot test of the system at JPL.

This proposed remedy would involve installation of up to five vapor extraction wells and vapor treatment systems on the JPL site. The extraction wells and vapor treatment systems would be operated until VOCs in soil vapor have been reduced to an agreed-upon level. As part of the cleanup process, a soil-vapor monitoring program, currently in place, would be used to track concentrations and evaluate the extent of VOCs in soil vapor over time.

Final decisions on the cleanup plans will be made after public comments have been received and considered. The public comment period has been extended 30 days and now ends July 11, 2001 to allow for greater public participation in this decision process. Written comments should be mailed or e-mailed to Mr. Peter Robles, Jr. at the address provided in this notice, or brought to the public meeting.

An administrative record file has been prepared in accordance with federal regulations governing the cleanup of facilities where there has been a release of hazardous substances into the environment. The administrative record includes site documentation, including the Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study, and Proposed Plan. Local residents and other interested parties are encouraged to review available Superfund information at the following information repositories:

Altadena Public Library
600 E. Mariposa Ave.
Altadena, CA 91001
(626) 798-0833
LaCanada-Flintridge Public Library
4545 Oakwood Ave.
LaCanada-Flintridge, CA 91011
(818) 790-3330
Pasadena Central Library
285 E. Walnut St.
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 744-4052

Questions regarding the Proposed Plan, Feasibility Study, Remedial Investigation, administrative record, and/or other issues should be directed to the contact below:

Mr. Peter Robles, Jr.
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